

**Recent Books from Myanmar – April 2006**  
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**Anthropology**

Textiles of the Highland Peoples of Burma – Volume II : The Northern Mon-Khmer, Rawang, Upland Burmish, Lolo, Karen, Tai, and Hmong-Mien-speaking Groups / Michael C. Howard  
Bangkok : White Lotus Co. Ltd, c2005  
xvi, 371 p. : ill. ; 30 cm.  
Includes Bibliography and Index  
974-4800-74-7  
Studies in the Material Cultures of Southeast Asia ; No.8  
\$ 60.00

[Volume 2 of Textiles of the Highland Peoples of Burma focuses on the highland peoples of Burma who speak Northern Mon-Khmer, Rawang, Upland Burmish, Lolo, Karen, Tai, and Hmong-Mien languages. These include the Palaung, Wa, Rawang, Lisu, Akha, Karen, Tai (Shan), and Hmong. It examines textile traditions that have disappeared as well as the textiles that are being woven today by these groups. The book provides background on the history and cultures of these peoples and an extensive survey of their textiles based on numerous field studies by the author as well as the examination of museum collections and the existing literature. In addition to dozens of black and white photographs and maps, there are color plates with over 200 photographs.]

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**Religion – Buddhism**

Sharpening the controlling faculties / Ashin Kundalabhivamsa [Translated by Daw Khemanandi]  
Yangon : Saddhammaramsi Mediation Centre, 2003  
347 p. : ill. ; 21 cm.  
\$ 13.00

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Sasana Abroad / Ashin Kundalabhivamsa [Translated by Kay Mya Yee]  
Yangon : Saddhammaramsi Meditation Centre, 1999-2001  
3v. ; 18 cm.  
\$ 30.00 (Set)

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A brief Vinaya rules for Dullabha Monks / Ashin Kundalabhivamsa [U Tin Aung]

Myanmar : Saddhammaramsi Meditation Centre, 2004  
115 p. ; 19 cm.  
\$ 13.00

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Questions and answers / Ashin Kundalabhivamsa [Translated by Kay Mya Yee  
Yangon : Saddhammaramsi Mediation Centre, 2005  
156 p. : ill. ; 18 cm.  
\$ 15.00

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Dhamma to practise and abstain / Ashin Kundalabhivamsa [Translated by Kay Mya Yee]  
Yangon : Saddhammaramsi Meditation Centre, 2003  
iv, 115 p. : ill. ; 19 cm.  
\$ 12.00

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A dhamma gift : Discourses delivered abroad / Venerable U Kundalabhivamsa  
[Translated by Tin Oo Hlaing]  
Yangon : Saddhammaramsi Meditation Centre, 2000  
v, 192 p. : ill. ; 19 cm.  
\$ 12.00

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Practise like a royal Elephant / Ashin Kundalabhivamsa [Translated by Kay Mya Yee]  
Yangon : Saddhammaramsi Meditation Centre, 2002  
iii, 148 p. : ill. ; 19 cm.  
\$ 12.00

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Dhamma Padetha / Ashin Kundalabhivamsa ; Translated by Daw Khin Hla Hla  
(Kanbawza Myitzu)  
Yangon : Thiland Sapei : Daw Shwe Aim, 1999-2005  
7v. : ill. ; 24 cm.  
Includes Index  
\$ 65.00 (Set)

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### **General**

Colourful Myanmar – 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. / Khin Myo Chit  
Myanmar : Parami Book Shop, 1995  
314 p. : ill. ; 21 cm.  
\$ 18.00

[Contents:  
Foreword  
Buddhist Way of Life  
Life and Customs  
Language and Pitfalls  
Trees, Fruits and Vegetables  
Myanmar Cuisine  
Myanmar Women  
Performing Arts  
Festivals  
The Splendour that was Bagan  
Appendix.]

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## History

Ancient Pagan : Buddhist Plain of Merit / Donald M. Stadtner  
Bangkok : River Books, c2005  
286 p. : ill. ; 24 cm.  
Includes Index and Maps  
974-9863-02-X  
\$ 30.00

[Pagan is the largest and most resplendent center of Buddhist art in the ancient world. Indeed, nearly three thousand brick monuments dot the landscape up and down the banks of the Irrawady as far as the eye can see. Construction at Pagan peaked between the eleventh and thirteenth centuries when the city was home to the country's kings and its chief religious personalities. Local architects mastered complex brick vaulting techniques unrivalled in Asia, while mural painters and stone carvers fashioned a distinctive style of Burmese art. By the mid-fourteenth century the capital had shifted north to what is now the Mandalay region, and the pace of building showed dramatically. However, the city never lost its special religious and cultural significance, furnishing a field of merit to Buddhists old and new.

Burma, now known as Myanmar, was terra incognita in Southeast Asia for many decades, but the lifting of travel restrictions has made this temple city now accessible. Dr. Donald M. Stadtner, a distinguished scholar with decades of experience in Burma, has selected thirty-three monuments that highlight Pagan's unique history. His text is accompanied by Micahel Freeman's superlative photography.]

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In Farthest Burma / Frank Kingdon-Ward  
Second Edition (First published by Seeley, Service & Co, London, 1921)  
Bangkok : Orchid Press, c2005  
180 p. : ill. ; 22 cm.  
Includes Index and Maps  
974-524-062-1  
\$ 25.00

[In 1914, the British plant-collector and explorer, Kingdon-Ward, undertook an expedition of some eight month's duration along Burma's eastern frontier and across the headwaters of the Irrawaddy River. Kingdon-Ward travel was mostly on foot, through some of the most rugged and impenetrable terrain on earth; his legendary courage and endurance enabled him to prevail, despite significant impact on his health. Kingdon-Ward's keen powers of observation result in an account rich in details of this previously unknown territory, its flora, fauna and the anthropology of its tribal inhabitants. While primarily a scientific expedition, Kingdon-Ward's descriptions are, at times, lyrical as he described the majestic through which he traveled. First published in 1921 and previously long out of print, this work has been one of Kingdon-Ward's scarcest and most sought-after titles.]

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King Among Men / Khin Myo Chit  
Third Edition  
Myanmar : Parami Books, 1996  
234 p. : ill. ; 24 cm.

\$ 22.00

[It is a story of men and women caught in the vast web of history in the making – their loves, their hatreds, joys, hopes, jealousies, griefs, their ambitions, their greeds, king-ness, cruelty, and the acts and omissions which these feelings compel.

The sweet sad love of Khin U, a Mon princess and Kyansittha, the idyllic romance of Byatta, the king's henchman and the sylvan maid, the simple untarnished love of Mai U for her forester husband Yin Maung, standing up against great odds, and the marriage of true minds between Anawrahta and Shan princess Saw Mon Hla, whose love rose from the earthy to spiritual heights – all these things are skillfully woven into an absorbing novel.

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The White Umbrella : A Woman's Struggle for Freedom in Burma / Patricia W. Elliott  
Second Edition

Bangkok : Friends Books (Nusara and Friends Company Limited), c2006

398 p. : ill. ; 20 cm.

Includes a Map

974-93747-8-9

1. Shan (Asian People)- Burma

2. Burma-History

\$ 19.50

[Suspenseful and intensely moving, no other book captures the tapestry of Asian history quite like The White Umbrella, a dazzling true tale of modern Burma told through the life story of Sao Hearn Hkam.

Born into royalty, sold in marriage, she fought against tradition, foreign invaders and the brute power of a crazed general to gain freedom for her people. Her journey from Princess, to a Member of Parliament, to rebel leader, to exile is an inspiration and a revelation-about Burma, about Southeast Asia, and about the games of superpowers played out in real life.]

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## Linguistics

Burmese for Beginners-1 Book with **3 CD-ROMS** / Gene Mesher

Thailand : Paiboon Poomsan Publishing, (Paiboon Publishing, California), c2006

312 p. : ill. ; 21 cm.

Includes Index

1-887521-51-8

\$ 30.00

[Welcome to the fascinating world of Burmese language and culture! Learning Burmese can help you discover the mystery and beauty of one of Southeast Asia's most enchanting countries-a place of majestic rivers, gleaming stupas and charming people.

Burmese for Beginners :

- teaches all four language skills-speaking, listening, reading & writing
- is effective for independent self-study or classroom use.
- offers clear, easy, step-by-step instruction, building on what has been previously learned
- introduces you to Burmese culture, geography and much more.
- is written in a brisk, interesting style with beautiful Burmese fonts.

Burmese for Beginners is the perfect language guide for your journey into the Golden Land-Burma (Myanmar)!

